TOWN CREEK PLANTATIONS
CENTERVILLE, IDAHO

A pilot-sized experiment in the technique of planting ponderosa pine in central Idaho.

TOWN CREEK
GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY FOREST
BOISE NATIONAL FOREST
JULY-10-1955
TWO HUNDRED ACRES OF YOUNG FOREST PLANTATION
WERE DEDICATED ON THIS DAY TO THE YOUTH OF
IDAHO IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 50TH YEAR OF
THE U. S. FOREST SERVICE AND A HALF CENTURY
OF PROGRESS BY IDAHO FOREST INDUSTRIES.

On July 10, 1955, in an impressive ceremony on the site of the planting, the Town Creek plantations were dedicated to the youth of Idaho on the 50th anniversary of the founding of the U. S. Forest Service.

This brochure has been prepared and published cooperatively by Region Four and the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station of the U. S. Forest Service. It is for the information and guidance of visitors and prospective visitors to the Town Creek plantations. It sets forth the more important details of the experiment, its location, and how it can be reached. Arrangements to visit the Town Creek plantations should be made through the Supervisor, Boise National Forest, 210 Main Street, Boise, or the Center Leader, Boise Research Center, 316 East Myrtle Street, Boise.

FACTS ON THE PLANTATIONS

Origin:--Plans for establishing a pilot-sized plantation of ponderosa pine were made early in 1954 when the Division of Timber Management of Region 4, the Division of Forest Management Research of the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, and the Boise National Forest, collaborated in designing a planting experiment.

Purpose:--With knowledge gained from past experience and research results, both in Region 4 and elsewhere in the West, to establish an experiment which would have the greatest chance of success from the standpoint of survival of planted stock. In this way it would be possible to develop and refine a planting technique that could be used not only for regenerating the large burned-over areas in central Idaho, but also on going timber sales on private, state, and federal land to supplement natural reproduction.

Design:--The experiment is a randomized block design with replications within blocks to permit conversion to a split plot design if treatments such as removal of brush by cutting or spraying were later considered desirable. Plantings have been made each year for 5 years so that effects of annual growing season weather can be analyzed. Thus three blocks of some 30 acres each were planted annually for 5 years. Within each block are three sections, or replications, of some 10 acres each. Thus approximately 90 acres constitute the planting for each year, and some 450 acres for the 5-year period.

Variables tested:

1. Planting stock:--Three kinds of stock, A, B, and C, were planted.

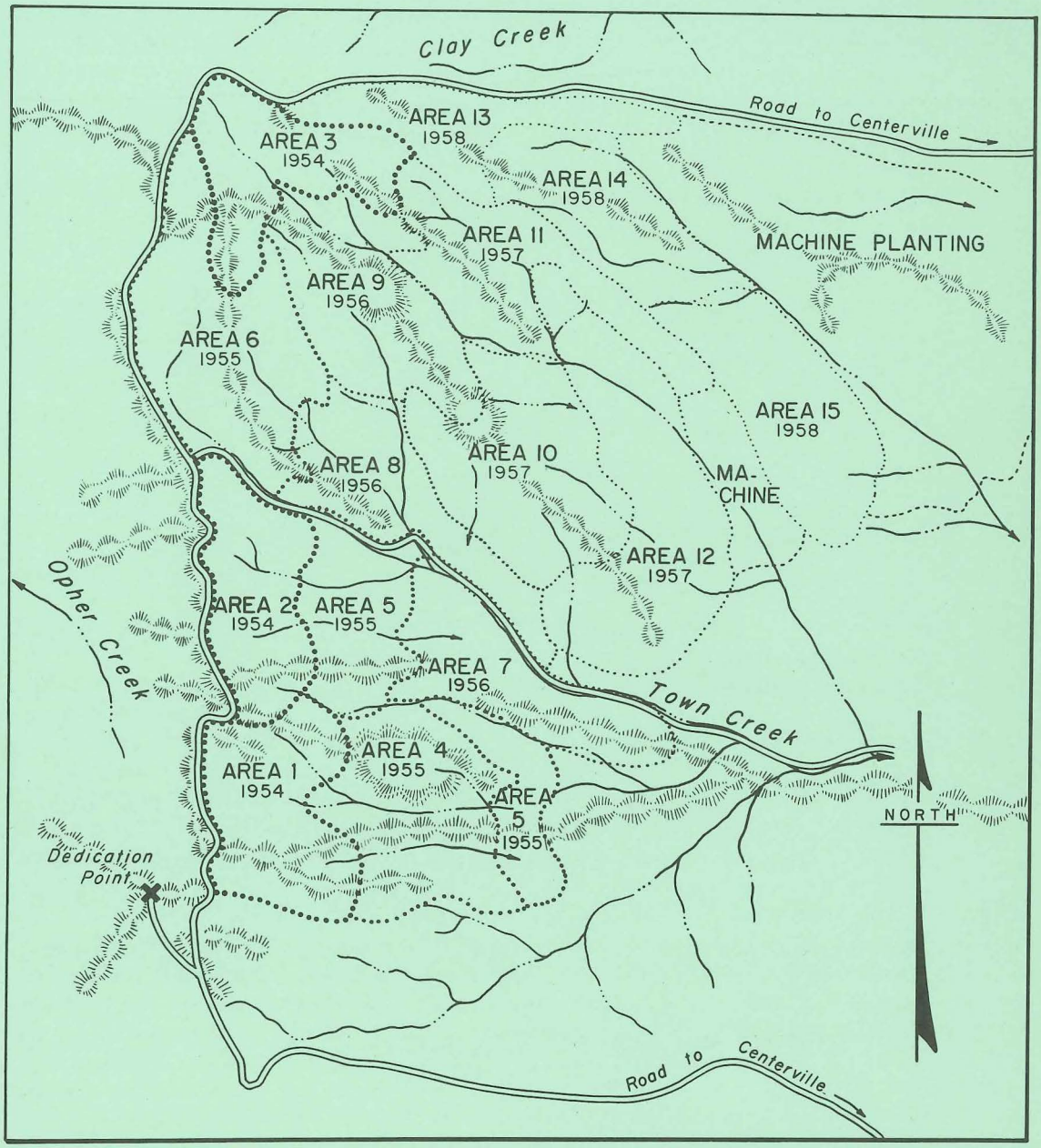
   A. 2-1 "regular" transplant stock. "A" stock (3 years old) was shipped from the Bend Nursery by common carrier in the same way stock for previous plantings had been shipped.

   B. 2-1 "special" transplant stock. "B" stock (also 3 years old) was transported from Bend by Forest Service truck as quickly and carefully as possible.

   C. 2-0 "special" seedling stock. "C" stock (2 years old) was shipped similarly to "B" stock.

On arrival all stock was immediately stored in snow banks near the planting site. It would have been preferable to heel-in the "A" stock in shaded ground, a practice followed in earlier plantings, but this was not feasible. Stock for a particular day of planting was brought to the planting site the previous day and protected by snow in transit. In a tent on the planting site the stock was sorted and graded and made ready for the planters to place in their carrying bags with the roots protected by wet shredded wood and wrapped in wet burlap.

2. Site preparation:--The three kinds of site preparation are: (1) none; (2) all vegetation stripped in rows the width of a bulldozer blade; (3) plowed furrows in stripped rows. The stripping was done by a Caterpillar D-7 and the plowing with a Talladega plow towed by an Oliver DC-2 tractor. Each of the three kinds of stock was planted in double rows on each of the three types of prepared sites. Thus, nine combinations of variables are available for comparison, and randomized within each section in each block. This scheme was repeated for each year's planting. The layout of the 5-year planting is illustrated diagrammatically below.



The start and end of blocks (designated "Areas" in the field) and the start and end of the rows in each section are marked with aluminum markers on posts and stakes, respectively. In each row, every other planted seedling is staked so that they may be found for accurate survival counts. Thus the stakes at the ends of rows designate combination variables as follows:

A-1	means	2-1	regular	stock	planted	on untreated site
A-2	"	"	"	"	"	" stripped site
A-3	"	"	"	"	"	" stripped and furrowed site
B-1	"	"	special	"	"	" untreated site
B-2	"	"	"	"	"	" stripped site
B-3	"	"	"	"	"	" stripped and furrowed site
C-1	"	2-0	"	"	"	" untreated site
C-2	"	"	"	"	"	" stripped site
C-3	"	"	"	"	"	" stripped and furrowed site

HOW TO GET TO THE TOWN CREEK PLANTATIONS